A PARISH OF THE WESTERN DIOCESE OF THE POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

October-November 2025

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The 110th Anniversary of St. Mary's PNCC took place on Sunday, October 26, with a 10am Holy Mass celebrated by his Grace, the Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church.

Fr. Jason Soltysiak, Fr. Greg Gronn, and Fr. David Rowinski served as concelebrants of Holy Mass, all wearing green chasubles along with the Prime Bishop. They, all *in persona Christi*, pronounced the words of Institution together, voices rising and echoing the words of our Savior at the Last Supper. In concelebration, they showed unity in receiving the Body of Christ together and then sharing the Blood of Christ from the chalice.

The liturgy began with procession- the acolytes led the Love of God Sodality



and members of the YMSofR, both those of our local Branch #29 and those in town for the United YMSofR Convention. The clergy followed, with the Prime Bishop coming in last.

Parish Financial Secretary Pattie Dotson greeted him at the Sanctuary with the traditional gift of bread and salt after the choir cascaded the traditional hymn of "Witaj, pasterze witaj!", the great welcome of the shepherd of our church. Holy Mass was celebrated in a high holy fashion, with incensation taking place for the procession, at the Introit, for the Gospel, and during Offertory, where the gifts for the people were incensed as were God's people.

Prime Bishop gave the penance to spend time in prayer concerning our relationship with Almighty God and how that relationship reflects on others. As is appropriate in a Solemn High Mass, he donned

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the Miter for the Lessons/1st Reading, Psalm, and 2nd Reading as to show his authority as teacher in the church. He held his pastoral staff, his crozier, for the Gospel to symbolize his role as shepherd. He wore his miter and held his crozier during the homily he delivered as a melding of those roles. His homily touched upon aspects of humility as pertaining to the Gospel, the discipleship we need and that he witnessed with a weekend spent at St. Mary's, and reasons that are indeed cause for celebration in God's holy church.

Fr. Jason and Prime Bishop Mikovsky

distributed the Eucharist to the faithful, the altar servers, quite









October 26, 2025

Opening Article (cont)

busy this day, washed all the celebrant's hands. Prime Bishop delivered the Episcopal Blessing, and Fr. Jason shared a few announcements, stressing to worshippers to come downstairs for the celebratory brunch.

Shortly after Mass, the program for the 110th Anniversary began, with Fr. Jason serving as MC and calling upon parish chair Susan Boehnlein to say a few words as well as visiting National United YMSofR president Nick Kazinetz. Fr. Jason then acknowledged the active elected leadership of St. Mary's organizations at the 110 year mark. Fr. Greg Gronn offered a blessing over the food and we ate!

Brunch was a potluck that featured many salads, potato dishes, fried chicken, other mains: from empanadas to golabki to meatballs, a dessert table, drinks, and a

cake. As people were wrapping up their meals, Fr. Jason brought out a couple of jokes and invited Prime Bishop to say a few closing words, which he did with great aplomb.

Thank you to our devoted parishioners and friends, past and present, who brought us to this day. Appreciation for all of those who did great planning, prepping, purchasing, primping, plating, and cleanup for our brunch as well. Let's do it again for 125 in 2040!











Liturgy Meetings

Fr. Jason attended the twice-a-year meetings of the PNCC National Commission on Liturgy September 3 & 4 at the offices of the National Church Center in Scranton, PA.

These meetings create, debate, and update liturgies of the PNCC as well as serve as a research and discus-

sion board to make recommendations to our bishops on aspects of the liturgy of the Church. Very Rev. Rob Nemkovich serves as chairman of this commission.



Saturday, September 27

Seniorate Meeting at Holy Cross

The Detroit, MI area was the place-to-be in the PNCC on Saturday, September 27, beginning with a 10am Meeting of the northeast Seniorate of the Western Diocese at Holy Cross PNCC in Hamtramck, MI.

We were truly blessed to have a nearly-full representation of all elected representatives from all of our parishes, as well as all of our clergy. Present were: Very Rev. Charles Zawistowski, Administrator of the Western Diocese; Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak, Administrator of the Northeast Seniorate and pastor of Holy Cross in Hamtramck, MI & Administrator of Resurrection PNCC in Temperance, MI; Rev. Jim Ploskonka, visiting priest at All Saints in Sterling Hts., MI; Rev. Henry Galas, pastor of Our Savior in Dearborn Hts., MI, and Rev. Jason Soltysiak, pastor of St. Mary's in

Parma, OH.

Homecoming at All Saints

Appropriately and lovingly billed as "homecoming", the parish of All Saints in Sterling Hts. MI, welcomed home their two native sons, the Rt. Rev. Paul Sobiechowski and Rev. Joseph Lewandowski. Bishop Paul serves as the Bishop-Ordinary of the Eastern Diocese of the PNCC and Pastor of Holy Trinity Cathedral in Manchester, NH while Father Joseph retired a few years ago from the active ministry.

Mass was con-celebrated by the two sons of All Saints, with clergy from the seniorate and other clergy present in-sanctuary from across the church as well.

A delicious catered reception followed, with Bishop Paul and Father Joe serving as main speakers. It was a touching affair, as stories were shared from the previous site of All Saints before their pre-millennium move from Detroit to Sterling Heights as well as some great recollections on good times in serving the Lord on his altar as acolytes before heading off to seminary. Family and friends lovingly attended in support.

There were traditional Polish Dancers, a large group from both of their families present, and a filled hall hanging on every word. A blessed event, indeed.





PLAV Convention

The Polish Legion of American Veterans held their convention at St. Mary's PNCC in Parma, OH on Saturday, October 11.



They convened upstairs in the Fellowship Hall of the church and had their meals in the basement hall of the church.

Their meetings were deemed successful and they enjoy having them at St. Mary's. The parish was honored and surprised for receiving donations from four different posts. Thank you!

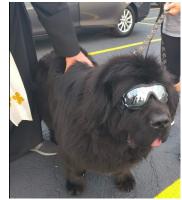


Pet Blessing

The annual Blessing of Pets and Animals in honor of St. Francis of Assisi took place on Monday evening at 6pm, October 6. Usually, we have this event on the Feast Day of Francis of Assisi, October 4, but circumstances prevented this. Fr. Jason and Fr. Jim led this service and provided individual blessings to each animal.

Almighty God was praised and the heavens were filled with a joyful noise of curiosity, joy, confusion, and more! We only had dogs present this year, but a healthy and

bountiful group of them. Our liturgy begged our prayers for all of God's creatures...but especially our beloved pets.





Blessing of the **Animals**





INRI











Honoring Mary

Our patroness was celebrated with Holy Mass and in song on the Solemnity of her Nativity on Monday, September 8, 2025. The Solemnity of the Holy Mother of the Rosary on October 7, 2025 was also celebrated with Holy Mass and the short recitation of the Rosary. We always make special note of our devotion to our Lady.



Clergy Conference

The National Clergy Conference of the Polish National Catholic Church began with the Sacrament of Penance and Holy Mass on Monday, October 13. Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky served as celebrant of Holy Mass and Host pastor Rt. Rev. John Mack offered a welcome and words after the Holy Gospel. Clergy were then invited to the hotel for a delicious evening of wings, pizza, and refreshments.

Tuesday was the "big business" day as we began with Morning Prayer in the Cathedral and took on the agenda. Items on national, diocesan, and parish levels were presented and discussed, including reports by the National Commission on Liturgy, Church Doctrine, Mission & Evangelism, Synod preparation, and Organizational life in the church. Cathedral member David Pecynski was even so kind to present each clergyman with local favorite

"sponge candy", which is milk chocolate surrounding a delicious sponge of candy. Delicious! These were presented as a gift from the United YMSofR. The meals were scrumptious and again, the clergy met for an evening of fellowship.

Wednesday was the final day for most clergy, as it began with Morning Prayer in the Cathedral and the Seminary & Diaconate Programs were discussed. Much has changed in four years and a detailed plan for the next few were presented. After a final speech, lunch was served. A group of the Hispanic

clergy stayed for another day to discuss aspects of the church from a different point of view along with our Prime Bishop.





Saint John Vianney Patron Saint of Priests Pray for us!

Wedding

Halina Dreger and Jay Tamilio were wed in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, September 6 at St. Mary's PNCC. The bride has been



a member of St. Mary's her whole life and her husband lived a unique life as the son of two church pastors. They spent a small portion of their summer meeting with Fr. Jason prior to their wedding in order to be fully prepared for the wedding to be Sacramental.

A Friday rehearsal preceded a beautiful 2pm wedding, where Fr. Jason preached to the couple on how the four aspects of "Greek love" would apply to them as a newlyweds. A large group of worshippers kept Jay & Halina in prayer throughout and well through the reception, which featured only classic wedding music!



YMSofR Convention

The 77th Biennial Convention of the United YMSofR of the PNCC took place on Saturday, October 25 at St. Mary's PNCC in Parma, OH. Most of the men were well-acquainted from a fellowship time the prior evening and ready to get to work at the convention come 9am Saturday morning.

United (National) YMSofR president Nick Kazinetz led a host of greetings, which also included our current Branch #29 president Chuck Repede. There were representatives in-person and online from a half-dozen states representing all four American dioceses of the Polish National Catholic Church. The meeting proceeded with standard fare and featured a SWOT analysis that was run by Rev. Jim Ploskonka.

Donuts and coffee greeted the attendees in the morning and a lunch of soup and sandwiches were served in the early afternoon. Red beet, chicken & rice, and butternut squash were the

three featured soups, as well as a salad bar and choice of half-sandwiches.

After concluding the afternoon section of the convention, the body was dismissed. Wild Eagle Steak & Saloon was the sight of the evening dinner, which features barbecue fare, a beer wall with a few dozen beers, and a

game room that got quite a bit of use from some of our younger attendees

The men of the United YMSofR were then invited to be part of the procession that began our Sunday morning liturgy of our 110th Anniversary Celebration.









Love and Prayers for the Micka Family

David Micka, formerly a parishioner here at St. Mary's, was wed to the former Kelly Zaleski at Holy Mother of Sorrows PNCC in Dupont, PA on Saturday, October 4, 2025. The family shared their tremendous joy together in the wedding and reception.

It wasn't just days later, on October 23rd, that David's father Albert Micka passed away after falling ill. May our prayers reflect the needs of the entire Micka family in their joy, sadness, and everything in-between.





Various Announcements

THANK YOU – Sunday, October 26 was so special for us at St. Mary's. The world tells us to celebrate the good things we have in life...so we did. 110th isn't the most glamourous of anniversaries on paper, but boy, did we make it memorable! Beginning with a solemn procession, a hearty crowd of worshippers, attentiveness to our Prime Bishop in his celebration of Mass and preaching, and finally, for the many who were able to join us for a short program and bruncheon. The spirit was such an impressive balance: solemnity, wonderful, celebratory, respectful, open to the newness of parishioners and guests, and more. Thank you to all who put in the work before, during, and after to make a 110th anniversary something that our people were proud and excited to be a part of.

<u>CANON</u> –for the month of November, we use the 4th Eucharistic Prayer on p. 88, the Dutch Old Catholic Canon.

EVENING BIBLE STUDY — Will be on hiatus through the end of the year. There was diminished participation and the decision was made last week. However: churches need to study the Word of God! Please let Fr. Jason know your thoughts on when, how, and where we could continue this ministry in the new year. Meanwhile, beginning November 11, the Western Diocese's Word of God

Study begins on Handel's Messiah, a bible study by Stephen J. Binz. Please see Fr. Jason for more details.

MASS PRELUDE – We will have our organist play a bit of an instrumental prior to the beginning of Holy Mass. Please consider this as a call to quiet and prayer, allowing you, the worshipper, to "calm your heart and mind" as you prepare for worship.

OPERATION: CHRISTMAS CHILD – We once again work with Samaritan's Purse to provide Christmas across the world. Boxes are available along with descriptions of what is needed, including cash donation of \$10 for postage. See Evonne Pryer.

<u>CLOTHING COLLECTION</u> – Keep your eyes open! We will begin our clothing collection shortly for the YMSofR Clothing Drive.

<u>WE CONTINUE</u> – To participate in Acme's program, "Community Cash Back" which runs through February. Please turn in your receipts!

CHILI COOK-OFF — Sponsored by the YMSofR takes place Sunday, Nov. 9th. Gather your ingredients and mark your calendars! Bring in a pot of your best recipe and after coffee hour, we will have a competition for best "traditional" and "non-traditional" chili.

This is open to everyone, even if you aren't a cook and just would like to be a judge. Bring a friend! We welcome pots of chili from "outside the parish" as well.

ALL SOULS —Cemetery service takes place Sunday, Nov. 2 at 11:30am at the SHOJ Cemetery on W. 54th Street. Envelopes are available around church for you to fill out and remember your loved ones, who will be remembered in prayer during the first four Sunday Masses in November.

WHY ALL SOULS ENVELOPES? - The Catholic Church makes it a point to allow her people to pray for the dead, by name, in this time of All Souls remembrances. This is to show our belief in the shared Communion of Saints we have with the dead and the living. This means that the church on earth and the church beyond earth offer Almighty God praise together. Your choosing individual names are indeed a help, an aid to one's heavenly ascent. It is an acknowledgement that not all souls end up in heaven, but we pray for those especially whom we desire to share God's glory with one day in all eternity.

CHOIR REHEARSALS—Take place each Monday night at 6:30pm. Open to all!

Scheduled Mass Intentions at St. Mary's

Nov 2- For all departed souls

Nov 9 — Ronald Tiffe of. by son Jeffery Tiffe

Nov 16 – Hanna Pryer (Anv) of. by daughter Evonne Pryer

Nov 23- Ann Stepanik of. by son Gene Stepanik

Nov 30— Frank & Helen Satola (Wedding Anv.) of. by Barb & Bruce Bogzevitz

Dec 7 - Stella & Jack White of. by daughter Patty Temesi

Dec 14 — Bernie Ewanko (55th Anv.) of. by daughter Cathy Avondet

Dec 21- Departed members of the Blatnik family of. by the Repede family

Dec 28- Len & Hanna Pryer (Wedding Anv.) of. by daughter Evonne Pryer

Fr. Jason is now scheduling Mass intentions for 2026— 46 of 51 available Sunday Masses were scheduled in 2025– reach out to get your preferred dates.



Oct-Nov Days of Note



October Birthdays

4th - Marzena Krulik 5th - Eileen Cashmere 7th - Elaine Repede 9th - Nancy Roharik 9th - Jo Orlowski 17th - Michael D'Arcy - Ron Roharik 18th 19th - Cathy Avondet 25th - James Boehnlein 25th - Bruce Bogzevitz 25th - Esther Davis 25th - Jim Nemec 30th - Krysta Keale 31st - Marlane Oleniacz

31st

November Birthdays

- Patty Temesi

1st - Brady Soltysiak 5th - Ron Ference 6th - Alice Petrie 7th - Kathleen Beres 7th - Mike Wisniewski 16th - Mike Paulus 18th - Eileen Kasperczyk - Bill Glatzer 19th 21st - Krista Holtcamp 22nd - Josephine Ference (102!!)

22nd - David Kubala 24th - Jeff Dreger 25th - Michael Petrie 27th - Vicente Suarez 29th - Eliza Dreger



October Anniversaries

3rd – Jack & Lolly Spilka 4th – Jeff & Amy Dreger 5th – Pete & Debbie Moritz 7th - George & Patty Bennett

November Anniversaries

5th – Vicente & Alison Suarez 9th – Marty & Sue Bengela 28th – Dale & Pattie Dotson

Have we missed a birthday or anniversary? Just give us a shout so we can fix any errors that have been made :-)



"Death is Nothing at All"

Printed in honor of the commemoration of All Souls Day-November 2

Death is nothing at all.

I have only slipped away to the next room. I am I and you are you. Whatever we were to each other,

That, we still are.

Call me by my old familiar name. Speak to me in the easy way which you always used.

Put no difference into your tone.

Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.

Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together. Play, smile, think of me. Pray for me. Let my name be ever the household word that it always was.

Let it be spoken without effect. Without the trace of a shadow on it.

Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same that it ever was. There is absolute unbroken continuity. Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?

I am but waiting for you. For an interval. Somewhere. Very near. Just around the corner.

All is well.

By Henry Scott-Holland (1847-1918)



Our Prayer List

Praying for St. Mary's Parishioners & Friends

Bill & Pat Glatzer **Bob Kaczmarek** Bill Kastak Gail Perz George Makovicka John Spilka Johanna Markiewicz Patrick Kmitt Lucy-Louise Hoegler Dee Mora Marty Bengela Tom Putynski Jeff Pardy Millie Dominik Kathleen Beres Mike Paulus Donna Micka Ron Ference **Ed Pierson** George Bennett Florence Nemkovich Pattie Dotson Nicole McGivern Jack Spilka David Vaden Elaine Repede Wanda Clark Beth Chihill Michael Cosevin **Helen Cummings** Laina Dachtal Michael McGivern Jay Grabowsky Pam Chesar Cecelia Hall Caroline Kunes Linda Marks Thomas Lill John & Anne Nemetz Rhonda Smith Al Piniecki Carol Boesch Joanie True Daniel Rinella Tom Slomka Penny Dennison Pete James Tom Pietka Pam Tropiano Linda Vect Dennis and Sue Vect Marcus Vaughn, Jr. Bryson Dzuroff Fr. Sr. Joseph Soltysiak **Doreen Stanley** Jane Hunter **Dennis Thome** The Finnie Family Carlene Fliss Jim Fliss Jr. Josephine Ference Cathy Pieciak Nan Cramer Jim Lukas Sage McLane Dave Tuma Phil Repko Shyanna Tiller Kathleen Sobocinski Jim Giles Bill Zychowski Loretta Baldwin Donna Kidd Paulette Lilli Joseph Zubel Margaret & Lew Heifner **Courtney Austin** Marilyn Girard Stephanie Milla Shannon Alberino Jayden Pieciak Joyce Zeigler Sam Bass Katie Stallbaum Kim Penney Marcia Klein Laurie Slominski Amanda Monyak Roseanne & George Ziefle Judy Alexin Connie Benko Joe Litto Matthew Penney Diane Ellis Volodymyr Robert Kontur

WE ALSO REMEMBER
ALL ACTIVE & RETIRED CLERGY
ALL SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN
Bless them, O Lord.

